

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Files - RD-76, Task Order I

DATE: 25 January 1960

FROM :

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SUBJECT: (Conference Report - Time Event Marker, IN-7)

1. On 22 January 1960 a meeting was held with

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in Alcott Hall, Washington, D. C. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the progress of the subject task. The Agency personnel present were:

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2. The first item discussed was the present status of Phase 1 of this task, the fabrication of 15 time event marker prototypes. Four units have been delivered, 2 units are ready for delivery, two units have been partially tested, and seven units have been assembled and are ready for adjustment and testing, with the exception of three units which are missing time readout multivibrator circuits. The contractor has been unable to obtain additional multivibrator circuits from their original procurement source or from other procurement sources. Due to this problem [redacted] has estimated that a \$2,000 increase in funds will be necessary to complete this phase of the task. This phase was undertaken to provide equipments which could be used in the field under limited environments until a ruggedized model could be developed and produced in quantity. Delivery of the IN-7 units under Phase 1 started last spring; however, the delivery schedule has lagged far behind that which was contemplated. This has been due to the many troubles encountered which have made necessary a considerable amount of adjustment and repairs which are inherently time consuming due to the design of the unit. Performance of several of the units delivered to date has been unsatisfactory and, since the delays in delivery have reduced the effectiveness of this program, [redacted] was directed to complete as many units as they can within remaining funds, \$3,600. [redacted] estimated that 12 of the 15 units contracted for could be completed within funds. We expressed our concern as to the outcome of Phase II, ruggedized IN-7, in view of their performance on Phase 1 and some of the previously terminated tasks with [redacted] stated that the ruggedized model has been designed very well and they should be able to produce them with very little trouble.

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He also stated that prior to the initiation of this task [ ] had made recommendation against building quantities of the IN-7 until after the design of a ruggedized unit was completed because of expected problems. Also, that the Agency insisted on the approach to fabricate 15 units whether they work or not. It is hardly considered possible or probable by this writer that any statements made by Agency personnel could have been misconstrued to this interpretation.

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3. The evaluation of the ruggedized model of the IN-7 was next discussed with [ ]. During this evaluation three failures have occurred, the last of which has made further evaluation impossible without rework. A cursory examination of the unit was made by [ ] and it was determined that a momentary grounding, either internal or external to the unit, of the sweep readout line had caused burn out of a set of bridging contacts in the sweep readout circuit by placing them directly across the battery. Methods of providing protection to these fine wire contacts were discussed; however, a solution was not decided on until the contractor can further investigate. The possible cause of failures encountered during the low temperature tests was discussed. The contractor felt that this may have been caused by the differences in power sources used during testing. This is due to the nature of the equipment which requires varying current pulses depending on the number of functions occurring in the unit at the instant of current pulse demand. Therefore, the voltage of the battery source we used may have dropped below the voltage for proper operation of the unit under low temperature testing. They had used a regulated power supply during their testing phase. We expressed our concern that, although this method may be all right for testing, we will have to have recommended maximum current pulse demands expected during operation over extremes of the environmental specifications so that proper selection of battery supplies can be made.

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4. It was decided that the ruggedized unit would be returned to the contractor for further examination to ascertain the cause of these troubles and rework for the correction thereof. The contractor will submit a request for a time extension and more funds for this additional work.

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